(7) Sri Padmavati Mahila Vishwavidyalayam, Tirupati.

(b) to (d) Vice-Chancellors of State Universities are appointed under the provisions of the Act of the concerned university. Central Government has not issued any guidelines to the State Governments regarding appointment of Vice-Chancellors.

Tribals Access to Firewood and Forest Produce

4390. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in regard to ensuring and safeguarding the traditional rights of tribal population of access to firewood and forest produce as per the Twenty Point Programme;

(b) whether in some of the State, the traditional rights have been abolished to the detriment of tribals; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) While the National Forest Policy, 1988 provides for full protection of the rights and concessions enjoyed by tribals living within and near forests, it also stipulates that such rights and concessions should always remain related to the carrying capacity of the forests. The domestic requirements of tribals for fuelwood, fodder, minor forest produce and construction timber are treated as the first charge on forest produce.

(b) and (c) Government are not aware of any State Government having abolished the traditional rights of the tribals in forests. However, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rehabilitation of Displaced Tribals

4391. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribals displaced so far from their habitats on account of various development projects;

(b) whether the displaced tribals have been properly rehabilitated; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allocation of Funds to Kerala under "Project Elephant" Scheme

4392. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to allocate funds to wild life sanctuary in Thekkady and Elephant centre at Kokanad in Kerala under "Project Elephant" Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) "Project Elephant" has not yet been finally approved by Government. Therefore no commitment about allocation of funds to wildlife sanctuary in Thekkady and Elephant Centre at Kokanad in Kerala, can be made, at present.

Assistance to State Governments for Health and Family Welfare

4393. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: